

How to Fill Out Your Application for Naturalization

A part-by-part walkthrough of the naturalization application. Use this guide as you work through the form. Answer every question — incomplete forms slow down or stop your case.

Before you start

- Type or print in **black ink** only.
- Write your 9-digit A-Number in the boxes at the top right of every page (the form provides the space). You only fill in your name in Part 2 (page 1). On any continuation sheets you add, write both your name and A-Number at the top.
- Use the **mm/dd/yyyy** format for all dates.
- If you run out of room on any question, continue your answer in **Part 14. Additional Information**.
- Never leave a question blank. If it does not apply, write *N/A*. If the answer is none, write *None*.
- Do not sign Parts 15 or 16 — those are signed at your interview with an immigration officer.

BE HONEST ABOUT EVERYTHING

Questions that use the word **EVER** mean your entire life, anywhere in the world. Sealed, expunged, juvenile, or dismissed cases must still be disclosed. Lying on this form can result in denial, loss of citizenship after approval, and even criminal charges.

Documents to gather before you begin

- ☐ Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) — front and back
- ☐ State-issued ID or passport
- ☐ Social Security card
- ☐ Current and past addresses for the last 5 years (with exact move-in / move-out dates)
- ☐ Employment and school history for the last 5 years (names, addresses, dates)
- ☐ All passports (current and expired) covering the last 5 years for trip dates
- ☐ Marriage certificate(s); divorce, annulment, or death certificates for prior marriages
- ☐ Children's full legal names, dates of birth, A-Numbers (if any), and addresses
- ☐ Tax returns for the last 3–5 years
- ☐ Selective Service registration number (males who lived in the U.S. between ages 18 and 26)
- ☐ Court records or police reports for every arrest, citation, or charge — even if dismissed

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1. Information About Your Eligibility

Select **only one** box (A through G) that describes why you qualify. Choosing the wrong box can delay or reject your case.

Box	Choose this if...
A. General Provision	You have been a lawful permanent resident for at least 5 years .
B. Spouse of U.S. Citizen	You have been an LPR for 3 years , you have been married to and living with the same U.S. citizen spouse for those 3 years, and your spouse has been a U.S. citizen for those 3 years.
C. VAWA	You are the abused spouse, former spouse, or child of a U.S. citizen.
D. Spouse abroad with qualifying employer	Your U.S. citizen spouse works abroad for a qualifying employer (military, U.S. government, certain religious or research organizations).
E / F. Military	You served during a period of hostilities (E) or have at least one year of honorable service (F).
G. Other	None of the above applies. Explain in the box.

Write your 9-digit **A-Number** in the top right of the page. You will copy it onto every page after this.

2. Information About You

- **Current Legal Name:** Exactly as it appears on your Green Card. No nicknames.
- **Other Names Used:** Maiden names, prior married names, religious names, or any alias used on documents.

- **Name Change (Item 3):** Only check Yes if you want a court to legally change your name at your oath ceremony. This option is not available everywhere — ask if you are not sure.
- **Online Account Number:** Only if you already have an online immigration account; leave blank if you don't.
- **Date you became an LPR:** Found on the front of your Green Card. Use the date next to *Resident Since*.
- **Item 11 (disability):** Only mark Yes if you will submit a medical certification from a doctor to request a waiver of the English and/or civics test.
- **Item 12 (Social Security):** Mark Yes to 12.a. if you want SSA to update your status or issue a new/replacement card. If you mark Yes to 12.a., you must also mark Yes to 12.c. (consent for disclosure) — otherwise SSA cannot issue a card or update your status.

3. Biographic Information

The agency uses this for your background check. Be accurate — these answers will be compared to your biometrics at your appointment.

- **Ethnicity:** Pick only one.
- **Race:** Check all that apply.
- **Height and Weight:** In feet/inches and pounds. Estimate if needed.
- **Eye and Hair color:** Pick only one each. Use *Unknown/Other* if nothing fits.

4. Information About Your Residence

List **every** place you have lived in the last 5 years (3 years if filing as the spouse of a U.S. citizen or VAWA self-petitioner). Start with where you live now and work backwards. Dates must touch — no gaps.

TIP

If you have moved more than four times, continue the address list in Part 14.

Mailing address: If your mail goes somewhere different (P.O. box, family member, attorney), put that in Item 3. Otherwise check Yes and skip ahead.

5. Information About Your Marital History

- Pick one current marital status.
- **Item 3 — How many times have you been married?** Count every marriage, including annulled ones.
- If you are currently married, give your spouse's full legal name, date of birth, the date you got married, and (if a U.S. citizen) how and when they became one.

- Provide your spouse's **A-Number** if they are or were a Green Card holder.
- You must attach copies of every **marriage certificate** and every **divorce/annulment/death certificate** that ended a prior marriage — yours and your spouse's.

FILING UNDER MARRIAGE (PART 1, BOX B)

The interviewer will look closely at your relationship. Be ready to bring joint financial documents, photos, leases, and tax returns to your interview.

6. Information About Your Children

Part 6 asks only about your children **under 18 years of age**. In Item 1, write the total count. In Item 2, list each one — whether they live with you or not, are biological, step, or legally adopted, are living, deceased, or missing, are U.S.-born or foreign-born, and whether or not their other parent was your spouse.

- If a child does not live with you, list their address in Part 14.
- If you have more than three children under 18, continue the list in Part 14.
- Children 18 or older are **not** listed in Part 6, but be ready to discuss them at your interview.

7. Employment and Schools You Attended

Every job and every school for the last 5 years, with no gaps in dates.

- Self-employed: write *Self-Employed* as the employer.
- Out of work: write *Unemployed*.
- Retired: write *Retired*.
- Stay-at-home: write *Homemaker*.
- Include military, police, or intelligence service of any country.

8. Time Outside the United States

Every trip outside the U.S. in the last 5 years (3 years if filing through marriage). Start with the most recent and work backwards.

- Do **not** list day trips that ended within 24 hours.
- Use your passport stamps and entry records to be precise — guessing will cause problems.
- Any single trip longer than **6 months** can break your continuous residence. Be ready to explain it.

PHYSICAL PRESENCE REQUIREMENT

Beyond continuous residence, you must also have been **physically inside** the U.S. for at least **30 months (913 days)** of the last 5 years — or **18 months (548 days)** of the last 3 years if filing through marriage or VAWA. Add up the days from your trip dates. Too many or too long trips and you do not qualify yet.

IMPORTANT

Trips longer than **1 year** almost always break your continuous residence and can disqualify you. Do not file without legal advice if this applies to you.

9. Additional Information About You

This is the longest and most important part. Most answers are *No* for most applicants. Read each question carefully — the word **EVER** means at any time, anywhere in the world.

Topics covered:

- Claiming U.S. citizenship, voting, or registering to vote (Items 1–2)
- Taxes owed or filed as a nonresident (Items 3–4)
- Membership in totalitarian, terrorist, or armed groups (Items 5–14)
- Arrests, citations, charges, and convictions (Items 15–16)
- Prostitution, drugs, polygamy, marriage fraud, smuggling, gambling, dependent support, public benefit fraud (Item 17)
- False statements to U.S. officials (Items 18–19)
- Removal or deportation proceedings (Items 20–21)
- Selective Service registration for men (Items 22–24)
- U.S. military service (Items 25–29)
- Hereditary titles and the Oath of Allegiance (Items 30–37)

DISCLOSE EVERYTHING IN ITEM 15

Every arrest, citation, ticket, detention, or charge — even if it was dismissed, sealed, expunged, when you were a minor, or you were told you "don't have to disclose it." Bring certified court dispositions to the interview.

IF YOU ANSWER YES TO ANYTHING

Write a full explanation in **Part 14** and bring supporting documents. Do not try to minimize — provide context.

Selective Service (22.a–c): If you are a man and lived in the U.S. with permanent-resident or undocumented status at any time between ages 18 and 26, you were required to register. Mark *No* to Item 22.a. only if you held a temporary lawful visa (tourist, student, work, etc.) for the **entire** time you

were 18 to 26. If you should have registered but did not, request a Status Information Letter and discuss this before filing.

Oath questions (31–37): Answer Yes to all of them unless you have a religious or conscientious objection — in which case discuss this before filing.

10. Request for a Fee Reduction

Skip this part unless your household income is at or below **400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines**. If you qualify, you will need to submit the fee-reduction request form and supporting income documents (recent tax returns and pay stubs).

11. Applicant's Contact Information, Certification, and Signature

- Daytime phone and mobile phone — at least one is required.
- Email — recommended so you can receive case notifications.
- **Sign and date in black ink.** A typed signature is not accepted.

SIGN LAST

Review the entire form one more time before signing. By signing, you certify under penalty of perjury that every answer is true and complete.

12. Interpreter's Contact Information, Certification, and Signature

Complete this part **only** if someone translated the form for you because you do not read English. The interpreter must sign and provide their full contact information.

13. Preparer's Information

Complete this part **only** if someone other than you filled in the answers (an attorney, accredited representative, or family member). If you filled it out yourself, leave it blank.

14. Additional Information

Use this section any time you ran out of space on a previous question. For each entry, write:

- The **Page Number**, **Part Number**, and **Item Number** of the question you are continuing.
- Your full answer.

If you need more space than the form provides, photocopy the page or attach a clean sheet with your name and A-Number at the top of every sheet.

15. & 16. Signature at Interview and Oath of Allegiance

Leave these blank. You will sign in front of an immigration officer at your interview.

Before you submit

- ☐ All 14 pages are included and in order.
- ☐ Your A-Number is at the top of every page.
- ☐ You have signed and dated Part 11 in black ink.
- ☐ You have included two passport-style photos (only if you live outside the U.S.).
- ☐ You have included a clear copy of the front and back of your Green Card.
- ☐ You have included copies of supporting documents (marriage certificates, divorce decrees, court records, tax returns, etc.).
- ☐ You have the correct filing fee (or a fee reduction / waiver request).
- ☐ You have made a complete copy of everything for your own records.

FILING

File online through your government immigration account, or mail your application to the filing address listed for your state.

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Questions about this guide? Contact us at contact@thepagewriters.com.